

17.
ARTICLES

TO BE ENQVIRED

OF, IN THE ORDINARIE

Vifitation of the moſt Reuerend Father

in God, GEORGE by Gods Providence, Lord

Arch-Biſhop of Canterbury, Primate of all England,

and Metropolitan : in, and for the Cities

and Dioceſſe of COVENTRY and

LICHFIELD, the See

there being

voyd.

North note
Holden in the yeere of our Lord God, 1632.

under
and in the two and twenty yeere of

joined
**his Graces Tran-
ſlation.**

*in King and ſhewer ſermon to of Gibbit letters of
under and to pay conuention*

King and wedgprof
willia Sharley
Edward Glyley
Thomas Bolton
*wardens*
ſidewere

Imprinted at London for Robert Milbourn 1632.

*manifſt you to appear at Chaffers by
on 11 October 1632 at his Viſitation
de and ſaue Ridgway, Appiter*



**The Tenor of the Oath, to bee
ministred to the Church-wardens
and Side-men.**

You shall sweare, That you and every of you,
shall duely consider, and diligently enquire of
all and every of these Articles given you in
charge; and that all affection, favour, hatred, hope, of
reward and gaine, or feare of displeasure, or malice set
aside, you shall present all and euery such person, of,
or within your Parish, as hath committed any offence,
or made any default mentioned in these, or any of
these Articles, or which are vehemently suspected or
defamed of any such offence or default: wherein you
shall deale vprightly and full; neither presenting, nor
sparing to present any, contrary to truth: bearing in
this action God before your eyes, with an earnest
zeale to maintaine trueth, and to suppress vice. So
helpe you God, and the holy Contents of this booke.

I. Concerning the Ministers.

INprimis, whether doeth your Minister distinctly and reverently say divine service upon Sundayes and Holydayes, and other dayes appointed to be observed by the Booke of Common Prayer: Wednesdayes and Fridayes, and the Eues of every Sunday and Holyday, at fit and vsuall times: And doth your Minister duly observe the Orders, Rites, and Ceremonies prescribed in the said Booke of Common Prayer, as well in reading publicke Prayers and the Letany, as also in administering the Sacraments, solemnization of matrimony, visiting the sick, burying the dead, Churching of women, and all other like Rites and offices of the Church, in such manner and sort, as in the Booke of Common prayer is enioyned: And doth he reade the booke of the last Canon, once yearly, and weare a Surplice according to the sayd Canons:

2 Item, whether doth your Minister bid Holydayes & fasting dayes, as by the Booke of Common Prayer is appointed: And doth hee give warning beforehand to the parishoners, for the receiuing of the holy Communion as the 23. canon requireth: And whether doth he administer the holy Communion so often, & at such times, as that every parishoner may receiue the same at the least thrice in every yere: wherof once at Easter as by the Booke of Common Prayer is appointed: And doeth your Minister receiue the same himselfe on every day that hee administreth it to others, and vse the words of Institution according to the Booke, at every time that the Bread and Wine is renewed, accordingly as by the Wordis of the 21 Canon is directed: And doeth hee deliver the Bread and Wine to every Communicant severally: whether hath he admitted to the holy Communion any offender or schismaticke, contrary to the 26. and 27. constitutions, or receiued any to the Communion being not of his owne Cure, or put any from the Communion, not being publicly infamous for some notorious crime: Doeth he vse the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or Baptize in any Basin, or other vessel, and not in the vsuall font: or admit any father to be Godfather to his owne child, or such who haue not receiued the holy Communion, or Baptize any children that were not borne in the parish, or wilfully refuse to Baptize

any Infant in his Parish being in danger, having bene informed of the weaknesse of the sayd child : and whether hath the child dyed through his default without Baptisme :

3 Item, whether hath your Minister married any without a Ring, or without Banes publish'd thre severall Sundayes, or Holydayes in time of divine Service, in the severall Churches, or Chappels of their severall abode, according to the booke of Common Prayer, or in times prohibited, albeit the Banes were thrice published, without a License, or dispensation from the Archbishop, the Bishop of the Diocese, or his Chancelor, first obtained in that behalfe : or not betwixt the houres of eight and twelue in the forenoone, or married in any private house : or if the parties be under the age of 21. yeres, before their parents, or governeors have signified their consent unto him :

4 Item, whether doth he refuse to bury any, which ought to be interred in Christian buriall, or deferrs the same longer then he should, or bury any in Christian buriall, which by the Constitutions of the Church of England ought not to be so interred :

5 Item, whether the body of any excommunicate person dying within your parish hath bin buried by any of your parishioners, disorderly (your Minister justly refusing to bury it) within your Church, or Churchyard, or have the body, or bodies of any such excommunicate person, or persons bin carried out of your Parish to be buried in another Parish, without consent of your Minister, or Ordinary first had and obtained, and what are their severall names and surnames :

6 Item, whether is your Minister a preacher allowed : If so, then by whom : If not, whether doth he procure some who are lawfully licensed, to preach amongst you monthly at the least :

7 Item, whether doth your Minister (being licensed) preach usually according to the Canons, either in his owne Cure, or in some other Church, or Chappell neere adjoining, where no preacher is : and how often hath he bin negligent in that behalfe : and doth he preach standing and with his hat off : Or whether doth he as his Curate upon every Sunday, when there is no Sermon, read an Homily, or some part thereof, according as he ought to doe : or in case hee bee not licensed to preach doth he take upon him to preach or expound the Scriptures in his owne Cure, or elsewhere : If so then you are to present the same, the time and place, when, and where he did it.

8 Item, whether doth your Minister in his Sermons, Lectures and other exercises, use to pray for the Kings Majesty, King Charles and for our gracious Quene Mary, and all the Royal progeny, with addition of such

Articles.

such Title and Titles as are due to his Highnes, and exhort the people to obedience to his Maiestie, and all Magistrates in authority vnder him: not omitting particular mention of the Bishop of the Diocese, according to his Maiesties late direction in that behalf?

9 Item, whether is your Minister continually resident vpon his Residence, and how long time hath he bin absent, & in case he be licensed to be absent whether doth he cause his Cure to be sufficiently supplied, according to the Canons: or in case hee hath another Benefice, whether doth he supply his absence by a Curate sufficiently licensed to preach in that Cure, where he himselfe is not resident? Or otherwise, in case the smallnesse of the living cannot finde a preaching Minister, doth hee preach at both his Benefices usually?

10 Item, whether doeth your Minister or Curate serue any more Cures then one: If so, then what other Cure doth he serue, and how farre are they distant?

11 Item, whether doth your Minister euery Sunday and Holyday, before Evening Prayer, for halfe an houre, or more, examine and instruct the Youth and ignorant persons of his Parish, in the Ten Commandments, Articles of the Beliefe and in the Lords prayer and the Sacraments according as it is prescribed in the Catechisme, and set forth in the Booke of Common Prayer; and also strictly enioyned by our late Sovereigne King Iames of blessed memoery, in his directions to the Bishops of each Diocese?

12 Item, whether doth your Minister in the Rogation dayes goe in perambulation of the circuit of the parish saying and singing the prayers and thanksgiving to God, appointed by law, according to his duty, thanking God for his blessings, if there be plenty on the earth: Or otherwise, to pray for his grates and fauour, if there be a feare of scarcity?

13 Item, whether hath your Minister admitted any woman, begetten with child in adultery or fornication, to be churched without license of the Ordinary?

14 Item, whether hath your Minister, or any other Preacher, Baptized children, churched any woman or ministered the holy Communion in any private house, otherwise then by Law is allowed?

15 Item, whether doth your Minister, being a Preacher, endeavour & laboꝝ diligently to reclaime the Popish Recusants in his parish from their errors (if there be any such abiding in your Parish) Or whether is your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, overconuersant with, or a fauourer of Recusants, whereby he is suspected not to be sincere in Religion?

16 Item, whether hath your Minister taken vpon him, to appoint any

Publike or private Fasts, Prophecies or exercises not approved by Law, or publike authority, or hath bled to waste in any private house or place, with any person or persons, there to consult how to impeach or deppeane the booke of Common prayer, or the Doctrine or Discipline of the Church of England : If so, then you shall present them all.

67 Item, whether hath your Minister stayed the publication of any excommunications, or suspensions : or both he every halfe yere denounce in his parish Church all such of his parish, as are excommunicated, & persevere therein without seeking to be absolved, or both he wittingly & willingly keep company with such as are excommunicate : And hath he admitted into your Church any person excommunicate, without a Certificate of his absolution from the Ordinary, or other competent Judge :

18 Item, whether doth your Minister carefully looke to the reliefe of the poore, and from time to time call vpon his Parishioners to give somewhat as they can spare, to godly and charitable uses, especially when they make their Visitations :

19 Item, whether doth your Minister, or any hauing taken the holy Orders, being not silenced or suspended, or any other person of your knowledge, or as you haue heard, hold any conventicles, or preach in any place, or vse any other forme of Diuine seruice then is appointed in the Booke of Common Prayer : If so, then you are to present their names, and with whom.

20 Item, whether is your Curate licensed to serue, by the Bishop of this Diocese or by any other, and by whom :

21 Item, whether doth your Minister vse such decency and comeliness in his apparell, as by the 47. Canon is enioyned : and is he of sober behauiour, and one that doth not vse such bodily labors, as is not seemely for his function and calling :

22 Item, whether is your Minister noted or defamed to haue obtained his Benefice or his Orders by Simony, or any other way defamed, to be a Symoniacall person, or any way noted to be a Schismaticke, or Schismatically affected, or reputed to be an incontinent person, or to table or lodge any such in his house : or is he a frequenter of Tavernes, Innes, Alehouses, or any place suspected for ill rule : or is he a common Drunkard, a common Gamester or a player at Dice, a Swearer, or one that applieth not his Studie, or is otherwise offensive and scandalous to his function or Ministry :

23 Item, whether are there any Lectures, or exercises bled within your parish Church : If so, then whether do the sayd Lecturer or Lecturers, refuse to conforme themselves to the Lawes and Ordinances of the Church

Articles.

Church of England, and especially to the late instructions for Lectures published by his Sacred Majesty King Charles, and directed to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, and accordingly by his Grace, sent to every Diocese of his Graces Province. Anno Dom. 1629. And so by the Lord Bishop of this Diocese, commanded to be published throughout this Diocese, by his Lordships Archdeacons, at their severall visitations after Easter, Anno Dom. 1630. And both your Lecturer or Lecturers, and every of them observe that Article, and instruction of his Majesty, wherein it is provided precisely, that every Lecturer shall before his Lecture, or Sermon, reade Divine Service in his Surplice, and so according to his Degree: If you know of any default or neglect hereof, in not observing this instruction of his Majesties, or other the Lawes Ecclesiasticall of this Kingdome, you are to present it, otherwise you are likely to answer for this your contempt.

24. Item, whether do any Knight, or Gentlemen within your Parish maintaines or keepe any Chaplaine, contrary to the Lawes of the Land, not being thereunto Licensed by the Bishop of this Diocese?

25. Item, whether doth your Preacher or Lecturer reade Divine Service, and administer the Sacraments twice a yeere at least in his owne person, according to the Canons?

II. Concerning the Church, the Ornaments thereof, and the Churches possessions.

26. **VV**ether have you in your severall Churches and Chappels, the whole Bible of the largest volume, and the booke of Common Prayer, as also the booke of Homilies set forth by his Majesties authority, all fairely and substantially bound: a Font of Stone, set up in the ancient usual place: a convenient & decent Communion Table, with a Carpet of like, or some other decent stuffe, continually layd upon the Table at the time of Divine Service, and a faire linnen cloth upon the same, at the time of the receiving of the holy Communion: And whether is the same Table placed in a convenient sort within the Chancel of Church, as that the Minister may be best heard in his prayer & administration, and that the greatest number may communicate: And whether is it so used out of time of divine Service, as is not agreeable to the holy use of it: and as by sitting on it throwing hats on it writing on it or is it abused to other prophane uses? And are the Ten Commandments set upon the East end of your Church or Chappell, where the people may best see and reade them: and other Sentences of holy Scripture, written on the walles likewise for that purpose?

27 Item

Articles.

27 Item, whether haue you in your said Church or Chappell, a conuenient seate for your Minister to read Seruice in, together with a comely Pulpit, set vpon a conuenient place, with a decent cloth or Cushion for the same, a comely large Surplice, a faire Communion Cup, with a couer, of Silver, & a Flagon of Silver Tinne, or better, to put the Wine in, wherby it may be set vpon the Communion Table, at the time of the blessing thereof, with all other things and Ornamentes necessary for the celebration of diuine Seruice & administration of the Sacraments: And whether haue you a strong chest for almes of the Poore with thre lockes and keyes, and another Chest for the keeping the Bookes, and Ornamentes of the Church, and the Register Booke: And whether haue you a Register Booke in Parchment, for Chyrlenings, Weddings, and Burialls, and whether the same be kept in all points, according to the Canons in that behalfe prouided: And whether haue you in your said Church or Chancell a Table set, of the degrees, whereyn by Law men are prohibited to marry:

28 Item, whether are your Church and Chappells, with the Chancelles thereof and your Parsonage, or Vicarage house, your Parish almes-house and Church-house, in good reparations, and are they employed to good, & their right holy vse: Is your Church, Chancell & Chappell, decently and comely kept, as well within as without and the seats well maintained, according to the 85 Canon in that behalfe prouided: Whether your Church-yard be well fenced & kept without abuse: and if not, in whose default the same is, and what the defect or fault is: And whether any person haue encroched vpon the ground of the Church-yard, or whether any person or persons haue bled any thing or place consecrated to holy vse prophanely or wickedly:

29 Item, whether haue you the Terrier of all the Glebe Lands, Meadows, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Reuements, and portions of Tithes (whether within your Parish or without) belonging vnto your Parsonage or Vicarage, taken by the iudgement of honest men in your said Parish: And whether the said Terrier be layd vp in the Bishops Registry, and in whose hands any of them are now: And if you haue no Terrier already made in Parchment, you the Church-wardens and Aidesmen, together with your Parson or Vicar, or in his absence, with your Minister, are to make diligent enquire and presentment of the premises, and make, subscribe, and signe the said Terrier, as aforesayd.

III. Schoole-

Articles.

III. Schoole-Masters.

30 **VV** Hether doeth any in your Parish take vpon him to teach Schoole, without license of the Ordinary, and is he conformable to the Religion now established? And doth he bring his Schollers to the Church to heare Divine Service, and Sermons? And doeth he instruct his Schollers in the grounds of Religion now established in this Church of England? And is hee carefull and diligent to benefit his Schollers in learning?

III. Parish-Clerkes, and Sextons.

31 **VV** Hether haue you a fit Parish-Clerke, aged twenty yeeres at least, of honest conuersation, able to reade and write? Whether are his & the Sextons wages payed without fraud, according to the ancient custome of your parish: if not, then by whom are they so defrauded or denied? By whom are they chosen: and whether the said Clerke be approued by the Ordinary: and hath he taken an Oath as in such cases is fit and required: and is he diligent in his Office, & seruiceable to the Spinisser, & doth he take vpon him to meddle with any thing about his Office: as Churching of women, burying the dead, and such like?

32 Item, whether doeth your Clerke or Sexton keepe the Church cleane, the doores locked? Is any thing lost or spoiled in the Church through his default? doeth hee suffer any vnrasonable ringing, or any popane exercise in your Church: or doth he (when any is passing out of this life) neglect to toll a Bell, hauing notice thereof?

V. Physicians, Surgeons, and Mid-wiues.

34 **H**ow many Physicians, Chirurgeons, or Mid-wiues haue you in your Parish? How long haue they vsed their senerall Offices or Offices, and by what authority? And how haue they demeaned themselves therein, and of what skill are they accounted to bee in their profession?

VI. Touching the Church-wardens and Sidemen.

34 **VV** Hether you the Churchwardens, Quest-men, or Sidemen from time to time, do & haue done their diligences, in not suffering any idle person to abide either in the Church-yard, or Church-porch in Service or Sermon time, but causing them either to come into the Church to heare diuine Service, or to depart, & not disturb such as bee hearers there? And whether haue they, and do you diligently see the

Articles.

Parishioners duly resort to the Church every Sunday and Holy day, and there to remaine during vsuallie Seruice & Sermon: And whether you or your predecesso^{rs} Churchwardens there, suffer any playes, feastes, Drinkings, or any other prophane vsages, to bee kept in your Church, Chappel or Church yards, or haue suffered to your and their uttermost power and endeauour, any person or persons, to be tippling or drincking in any Inne or Victualling house in your Parish, during the time of diuine Seruice or Sermon, on Sundayes or Holydayes?

35 Item, whether, and how often haue you admitted any to preach within your Church or Chappell which was not sufficiently Licensed: And whether you together with your Minister, haue not taken diligent heed and care, that euery of your Parishioners being of freane peeres of age or bpwards, haue receiued thrice euery yere, as also, said: and also that no stranger haue vsuallie come to your Church, from their owne Parish Church?

36 Item, whether haue there bin provided against euery Communion, a sufficient quantitie of fine white bread, and of good and whole some wine for the communicants that shall receiue: And whether that wine be brought in a cleane and swete standing pot of pewter, or of other purer mettall?

37 Item, whether were you chosen by the consent of the Minister and the parishioners: And haue the late Churchwardens giuen by a iust account for their time, and deliuered to their Successors the money, and other things belonging to the Church, which was in their handes: And are the Almes of the Church faithfully distributed to the vse of the pooze?

VII. Concerning the Parishioners.

38 **V**Vether is there any of your Parishioners, being freene yeeres of age, or bpwards, or others lodging or commonly resorting to any house within your parish, that do wilfully absent themselves from your Parish church vpon Sundayes or Holydayes, at Morning and Evening Prayers: or who come late to Church, & depart from Church befoze Seruice be done vpon the said daies: Or who do not reuerently behaue themselves during the time of Diuine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling when the generall confession of sins, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all prayers and Collects are read, & vsing all due and lowly reuerence, to the blessed Name of the Lord Iesus Christ is mentioned, & standing vp when the Articles of the Beliefe are read, or who do couer their heads in the Church during the time of Diuine Seruice, vlesse it be in case of necessity, in which case they may weare a night cap,

Articles.

cap. 02. Coyse: 02 who doe give themselves to babling, talking, 02 wal-
king, and are not attentive to the word preached, 02 read: 02 reading, 02
praying during the time aforesaid: Whether any of your Parish being
of full yeares of age and upwards, do not receive the holy Commu-
nion in your Church thre every yeare: wherof once at Easter an. whe-
ther they doe not devoutly kneele at the receiving thereof?

39. Item, whether any of your Parishioners, being admonished, ther-
of, doe not send their children, servants, and apprentices to the spiri-
tuer, to be catechised upon such Sundayes and Holidayes as are appointed: 02
whether any of them do refuse to come: 02 if they come, refuse to learne
the Catechisme set forth in the booke of Common Prayer?

40. Item how many of the sayd Catechismes have bin dispersed in
your Parish 02 Chappell, according to the number of such children and
servants as can read and are to learne the same, according to the late
Injunction of your Ordinary, and who they bee that have refused to o-
bey that order so enjoined: and what are their severall names?

41. Item, whether any of your Parish doe entertaine within their
house any sojourner, common guests, 02 other persons, who refuse to
frequent divine Service, 02 receive the holy Communion, as afores-
sayd: Present their names, their qualities 02 conditions.

42. Item, what recusant Papists are there in your parish: 02 have dwelt
02 made usuall abode there within the space of two 02 thre yeares last
past, and whether they still dwell 02 remaine there, 02 where doe they
dwell, 02 make their abode: Present their names, qualities, 02 condit-
ions. And whether keepe they any Schoole-master in their house,
which commeth not to Church to heare Divine Service and receive
the Communion? What is his name, and how long hath he taught
there, 02 else where?

43. Item, whether doe any of the sayd Popish Recusants labo-
r to seduce and withhold others from the Religion now established: 02 in-
strut their families 02 children in Popish Religion: 02 refuse to enter-
taine any, especially in place of greatest service 02 trust, but such as con-
curre with them in their Popishry?

44. Item, whether the tuition of the children of any of your Pari-
shioners, dying within your Parish, be committed to any Popish Recu-
sants, contra-ry to the Stat. 3. 1. c. 5. and if so, to present and
certifie the names both of such children, and of the Tutor, 02 Guardi-
ans, to whose tuition and education they are committed.

45. Item, how long have the sayd Popish Recusants abstained from
Divine Service, 02 from the Communion as aforesayd?

46. Item, whether is there any in your parish that remaine unde-

Articles.

Edged, or sell, utter or disperse any Popish Bookes or Writings, or other Bookes, Labels, or Inscriptions of any Sectaries, touching the Religion, State, or Government Ecclesiasticall of this Kingdome of England, or keepe any Ornamentals of superstition vncancelled or vndeaced :

48 Item, whether haue you any in your parish, which hertofore being Popish Recusants, or Sectaries, haue since reformed themselves, and come to Church to heare Diuine Service, and receiue the Sacraments : If yea, then who they are : & how long since haue they so reformed themselves : And whether they still remaine and abide in that conformitie :

49 Item, whether is there any in your parish, that refuse to haue their childzen baptized, or themselves to receiue the Communion at the hands of your Minister, taking exception against him, and what causes or exceptions doe they alledge : Do haue any married wiuens refused to come to Church according to the booke of Common prayer to giue God thanks after their Childs birth, for their safe deliuerance : And whether doe any of, or in your parish, refuse to haue their childzen Baptized in your parish Church, according to the forme prescribed in the booke of comon prayer :

50 Item, whether any in your parish hauing a Preacher to your Parson Vicar, or Curate doe absent themselves from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preachers : or whether any of your parish doe Communicate or Baptize their childzen in any other parish :

51 Item, what persons within your parish, for any offence, contumacy, or crime, of Ecclesiasticall conuiance, doe stand Excommunicate : Present their names, and for what cause they are Excommunicated, and how long they haue so stood, and what person and persons doe wiltingly and vsually keepe them company,

52 Item, whether doe any, not being in Orders, execute any Priestly or Ministeriall office in your Church, Chappell or Churchyard, and what be their names :

53 Item, whether is there any in your parish, that hauing hertofore taken vpon him the Order of Priesthood, or Deacon, hath since relinquished the same and liues a Layman, neglecting his vocation :

54 Item, whether hath any person or persons in your parish quarrelled or stricken, or vsed any violence to your Minister, or hath stricken or quarrelled with any other person within your Church or Churchyard, or demeaned himselfe disorderly in the Church, by filthy or prophane talke, or any other lewd or immodest behauior : Do haue disturbed the Minister in time of diuine Service or Sermon, or haue libelled or spoken slanderous words against your Minister to the scandall of his vocation : or defamed any of his neighbours touching any crime of Ecclesiasticall conuiance :

55 Item

Articles.

55 Item, whether haue any of, or in your parish, without consent of the W^ordinary, or other lawfull authoritie, caused any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished for any matter of Ecclesiastical consfance, by any Vestry, meetings, or otherwise by their own authoritie: or haue take any money or cōmūtatiō for the same present their names that haue denie it and who haue been so punished: in what manner, and vpon what can'e.

56. Item whether any person in your parish do exercise any trade or labour, buy or sell, or keepe open shops or ware-houses vpon any Sunday or Holiday by theselues, their seruants or apprentices, or haue otherwise profaned the said daies, contrary to the orders of the Church of Engla^d: And whether there be any Inne keepers, Ale-house keepers, Victuallers, or other persons that permit any persons in their houses to eate, drinke, or play during the time of Diuine Service, or Sermon, or reading the Homilies in the forenoone, or after-noon, vpon these dayes?

57 Item, whether hath the last day of Nouember bin kept holy, and thanksgiving made to God, for his Maiesties & this States happy deliuerance, according to the W^ordinance in that behalfe: And whether haue you in your Parish Church or Chappell the booke in this behalfe set forth and commanded by publike authoritie.

58 Item, whether both any of your parish hold or frequent any conuenticles or priuate congregations, or make or maintain any constitutions, agreed vpon in any such assemblies: Or are there any that do write, or publike^{ly} or priuate^{ly} speake against the booke of Common prayer, or any thing therein contained, or against any of the Articles of Religion, agreed vpon in Ann. 1562. or against the Kings Supremacy in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against the Oath of Supremacy, or of Allegiance, as pretending the same to be vnlawfull, & not warrantable by the W^ord of God: Or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church of England now established: Or against the gouernment of the Church of Eng^{land}, vnder the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Archbishops Bishops, Deanes Archdeacons and other Officers of the same: affirming, that the same is repugnant to the W^ord of God, & that the sayd Ecclesiastical Officers are not lawfully ordained: Or whether be there any Authors, maintainers, or fauourers of Heresie or Schisme, or that be suspected to be Anabaptists Libertines Brownists, of the Familie of Loue, or of any other Heresie or Schisme: present their names.

59 Item, whether haue any in your Parish married within the degrees by law prohibited: or any couple in your Parish being lawfully married, liue apart one from the other, without true separation of the Law: or any that haue bin diuorced, which keepe company toith

any other at Bed or at Board, and when and where they married :

58 Item, whether doe any persons administer the goods of the dead without lawfull authoritie, or suppress the last will of the dead: Or are there in your Parish any wills not yet proved, or goods of the dead lying intestate left unadministred: By authoritie in that behalfe you shall not faile to present the Executors, and all others faulty therein: and also how many persons being possessed of any goods and chattels, have dyed within your Parish since the yere 1617.

59 Item, whether doth any with-hold the stocke of the Church, or any goods or other things, given to good and charitable uses :

60 Item, whether are your Hospitalls and Almes-houses and other such houses and Corporations, founded to good and charitable uses: and the lands, possessions, and goods of the same, ordered and disposed of as they should be: And doe the Pastors, Courtnours, Fellows, and others of the said Houses and Corporations, behaue and demean themselves, according to the godly Ordinances, and Statutes of their severall Foundations :

61 Item, whether haue you any in your parish to your knowledge, or by common fame & report, which haue committed Adultery, Fornication, or Incest, or any which haue impudently bragged or boasted that he or she haue liued incontinently with any person or persons whatsoeuer: or any that hath attempted the chastity of any woman, or solicited any woman to haue the carnall knowledge of her body, or which are commonly reputed to bee common Drunkards, Blasphemers of Gods holy Name, common Swearers, common Slanderers of their Neighbours, & solvers of discords, filthy and laciuous talkers, Wretches, Symoniacall persons, Bawds, or harbourers of women with child which be unmarried, or conueying or suffering them to goe away befoze they haue made satisfaction to the congregation, or any that hauing heretofore bene presented, or suspected of any the aforesaid crimes, haue for that cause departed your parish, and are now returned again: Or any which haue used any enchantments, soceries, incantations or witchcrafts, which are not made felony by the statutes of this Realme, or any which haue committed any perjury in any Ecclesiasticall Court, in an Ecclesiasticall cause, or which haue committed any forgery, punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, and the procurers and abettors of the sayd offences: You shall truly present the names of all and singular the sayd offenders, and with whom they haue committed the said offences, in case they haue not bin publikely punished to your knowledge for the same crimes.

62 Item, whether was the publike prayers and fast lately enioyned by
 autho,

Articles.

authoritie for the pacifying of Gods wrath, and for asswaging the late fearefull Plague, been duely and solemnely perfozmed both by your s^r minister and Parishioners on the dayes and times appointed, as also, The day of thanksgiving for Gods mercy in asswaging that fearefull sickness, being Religiously obserued, according to those publike formes set forth by authoritie, and whether haue you the sayd Bookes so published, as by the same authoritie you were commanded.

v III. Concerning Ecclesiasticall Magistrates and Officers.

63. **VV**hether doe you know or haue heard of any payment, composition, or agreement, to, or with any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Judge, or Officer, for winkinge at, or sparing to punish any person for any offence of Ecclesiasticall conuance, or for suppressing, or concealing of any Reculant, or any other offendour in the cases aforesayd? What sum of money, or other consideration hath bin receined or promised, by, or to any of them in that respect, by whom and with whom?

64. Item, whether hath any person within your parish, payd, or promised any sum of money or other reward, for communication of penance for any crime of Ecclesiasticall conuance? If so, then with whom, when, and for what, and how hath the same bene imployed?

65. Item, whether are your Ecclesiasticall Judges and their Substitutes, Bachelors of Arts, or Bachelours of the Law at the least, learned and practised in the Ciuill and Ecclesiasticall Lawes: Men of good life and fame, zealously affected in Religion, and iust vpight in executing their offices? Haue they heard any matter of Office priuately in their chambers, without their swoyne Registers, or their Deputies presence?

66. Item, whether doe you know, or haue you heard, that any Ecclesiasticall Judge, Officer, or Minister hath receined or taken any extraordinary fees, or other rewards or promises, by any waies or meanes directly, or indirectly, of any person or persons whatsoener, either for the granting of the administration of the goods and chattells of those that haue died intestate, to one befoze another, or for allotting of larger portions of the goods and chattells of those that haue dyed intestate, to one moze then to another: or for allowing large and vnreasonable accounts, made by Executors or administrators: or for giuing them Quietus est, or discharges, without Inuentory or account, to defraud Creditors, & exors, or those who are to haue portions? And what summes of money do you know, or haue you heard that any Ecclesiasticall Judge or Officer hath taken out of the Estate of any dying intestate, vpon pretence

Articles.

pretence to bestow the same in pious vsus: and how haue the same bene bestowed?

68 Item, whether hath any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Judge, Officer, or any other, exercising Ecclesiasticall iurisdiction within this your Diocese: or any Advocate, Registrar, Doctor, Clerke, Apprators, or other Minister belonging to the same Ecclesiasticall Courts, exacted or taken by any wayes or meanes, directly, or indirectly, extraordinary or greater fees then are due & accustomed: And whether is there a Table for the rates of all fees set vp in their severall Courts and Offices: And whether haue they sent or suffered any Proccesse to goe out of the Ecclesiasticall Courts otherwise then by Law they ought: or haue they taken vpon them the Office of Informers or Promoters to the said Courts, or any other way abused themselves in their Offices, contrary to the Law and Canons in that behalfe provided?

69 Item, what number of Apprators haue every severall Judge Ecclesiasticall: and wherein, and in what manner is the Country overburthened by them: and wherein haue they caused or summoned any to appeare in the sayd Courts, without a presentment or Citation first had: or whether haue they threatened any to prosecute them in the said Courts, if they would not giue them some rewards, and what whibes in that behalfe haue they taken?

If you know of any other default or crime of Ecclesiasticall conscience, you are to present the same by vertue of your Oathes.

The Minister of every Parish may, and ought to come in presentment with the Churchwardens & Aideners: and if they will not present, the Minister may & ought himselfe present the defaults & crimes aforesaid, and there must be severall presentments made to every severall Article: and the Minister, Churchwardens and Aideners, are to meet and conferre about the sayd presentment, and answering of every of the Aforesayd Articles.

F F N J S.